

What is the Forest Fire Protection grant program?

The Forest Fire Protection (FFP) grant program was created by 1997 Wisconsin Act 27 and is supported by annual appropriations from the Wisconsin State Legislature every biennium.

The purpose of the FFP grant program is to strengthen the Department of Natural Resources' initial attack fire suppression capabilities for forest fires by increasing the use of local fire departments. Grants are awarded to municipal fire departments and other fire suppression organizations.

The FFP grant program is a competitive 50/50 cost share program. This means that the grantee must use its own resources to fund the entire cost of the project. Upon project completion and Department approval, the grantee requests reimbursement for 50 percent of the total eligible project costs up to the amount of the grant award.

Who can apply?

An individual fire department in the state of Wisconsin can apply for a FFP grant if it has entered into a forest fire suppression agreement with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). County fire associations can apply if a majority of their fire department members serve organized forest fire control areas designated by the DNR.

What can a fire department or county fire association buy with FFP grant funds?

The FFP program provides grant funding to purchase the following categories of equipment listed in priority order:

- Personal Protective Equipment (must meet NFPA 1977 standards)
- Forest Fire Training
- Forest Fire Prevention Materials
- Forest Fire Suppression Tools, Equipment, Supplies and Materials
- Dry Hydrants
- Communication Equipment for Forest Fire Suppression or Protection
- Mapping, Rural numbering systems or Direction/Location devices such as GPS
- Off-road all-wheel drive vehicles of ½ to 5 ton capacity, excluding ATVs, that are used primarily for forest fire suppression (vehicles limited only to **individual fire department** applicants)

Maximum fire department award: \$10,000—To receive the maximum grant award, a project must have at least \$20,000 in eligible project costs.

Minimum fire department grant award: \$750—To receive the minimum grant award, a project must have at least \$1,500 in eligible project costs.

Maximum county fire association grant award: \$25,000—To receive the maximum grant award, a project must have at least \$50,000 in eligible project costs.

Minimum county fire association grant award: \$5,000—To receive the minimum grant award, a project must have at least \$10,000 in eligible project costs.

What is the application deadline?

Applications are mailed to fire departments and county fire associations statewide in April.

July 1 is the postmark deadline date for returning a FFP application to the DNR. The FFP grant application packet is also available on the DNR website:

www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/cfa/LR/ffp/grants.html

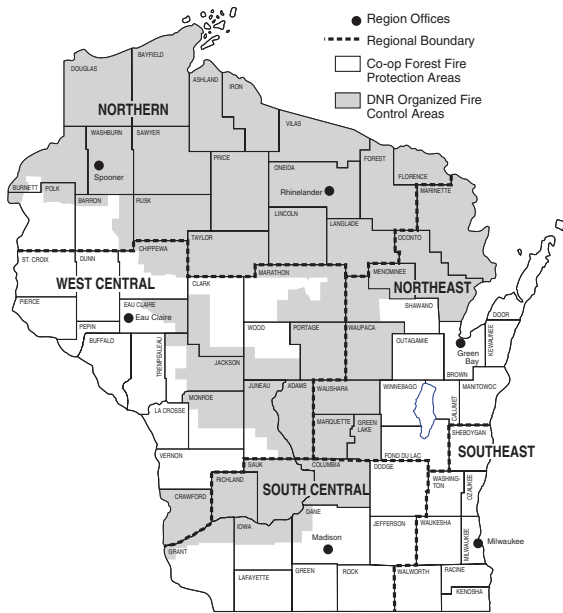
If a fire department or county fire association does not receive a grant application, contact:

Christopher Klahn,
Cooperative Forest Fire Specialist

Division of Forestry
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
363 Church Street
Montello WI 53949
Office: 608/297-2888
FAX: 608/297-9366
email: Chris.Klahn@dnr.state.wi.us

Eileen Trainor, FFP Grant Manager

Bureau of Community Financial Assistance
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921
Office: (608) 267-0848
FAX: (608) 267-0496
e-mail: Eileen.Trainor@dnr.state.wi.us



You Do Make a Difference!

The DNR Fire Department Advisory Council is a group of people from Wisconsin's fire service community appointed by the DNR to offer grassroots guidance to the Division of Forestry on the direction and structure of its forest fire protection organization, operations, and grant programs. The Co-Chair of the Council is a DNR Area Forestry Leader who is also a member of a volunteer fire department. As council members they:

- Advise the Department on funding issues for the grant program.
- Recommend ranking and scoring guidelines for Department fire suppression grants.
- Meet with appropriate legislative committees about funding issues for fire suppression grant programs.

- Evaluate the effectiveness of DNR fire suppression grant programs by working with region and bureau staff.
- Work with DNR staff to develop policy and guidance for the DNR fire suppression grant programs.

You can make a difference by voicing your ideas and concerns to current council members (as of 03/01/03):

DNR Fire Department Advisory Council Liaison
Division of Forestry
363 Church St.
Montello, WI 53949

DNR Fire Department Advisory Council Co-Chairperson
Area Forestry Leader
P.O. Box 208
Peshtigo, WI 54157

DNR Fire Department Advisory Council Member
Wausau/Mosinee Paper Company
9536 E. Stone Chimney Road
Solon Springs, WI 54873

DNR Fire Department Advisory Council Member
Wisconsin State Fire Fighters Association
619 Arbutus Ln.
Pickerel, WI 54465

DNR Fire Department Advisory Council Co-Chairperson
Wisconsin State Fire Chiefs Association
P.O. Box 435
Black River Falls, WI 54615

Chiefs of the Oxford Fire Department, Minong Fire Department, Lodi Fire Department, and PoySippi Fire Department

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